

HA-1450

1878

Store  
24 S. Main  
Bel Air  
Private

This much altered storefront is unusual. It has a wide gable facing the street. As an example of how things come full-circle, the ground floor is now occupied by a woodstove shop.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-1450  
1314504611

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Store

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

24 South Main Street

1st

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ MUSEUM

☒ COMMERCIAL

☐ PARK

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ MILITARY

☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

The Link Inc., c/o Cameron & Reed

Telephone #: 838-7575

STREET & NUMBER

30 Office Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

NR-1450

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This two and a half story gable-roofed store front is on the west side of Main Street at 24 South Main in Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. The building is frame in three quarters of its length, the back quarter being a cement block addition. A very narrow south bay contains the offices of the Bel Air Cab Company. The other 3 bays are plate glass windows with an aluminum framed glass door in the second south bay. The second story shows the same embayment: a very narrow south bay and three plate glass show windows with two pane transoms over each. The attic story has a round arched window under the peak of the gable. The front is covered with form stone.

The interior of the store has a 25' x 50' show room. The rest is storage. The second story is divided into three rooms of equal size which are currently unoccupied.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# **8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

---

SPECIFIC DATES	1878	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
----------------	------	-------------------

---

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This two and a half story store is the only one of its kind on Main Street. Its gable roof marks it as different from its neighbors in the row. Built two or three years later, they have flat roofs and decorative cornices. It is also larger than the others. It was built by John W. Anderson for the Mercantile firm of Martin and Anderson. Cochran and Young seem to have occupied the stand in 1884. In 1889 Anderson enlarged the store for McAfee and Hanna and installed two plate glass show windows 8' x 4'. McAfee and Hanna had the first phonographs for sale in town in 1890. In the latter part of the decade, the dry goods firm of Carver and Price occupied the site. They bought the lease in 1919 (166/192). By 1940 Carver was dead. Price continued the business, and after his death in 1943, his trustees did the same until 1945 when the property passed (288/191) to Solomon, Aaron, and Herman Rosenberg, the owners of the Hub, at which time it became the Hub Annex. The Hub closed in 1978. During the winter of 1979 Woodstove Johnny's rented the store. The firm sells woodburning stoves and installs insulation. The Bel Air Cab Company occupies a small portion of the building in the south end.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Harford Democrat  
Bel Air Centennial Commemorative Book

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

This property occupies parcel #816 in the Town of Bel Air, 27' x 120'

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew, Architectural Historian

16 March 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Town of Bel Air

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

39 Hickory

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bel Air

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
21 STATE CIRCLE  
SHAW HOUSE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET  
Individual Structure Survey Form

COUNTY: Harford	SURVEY NUMBER: HA-1450
TOWN: Bel Air	NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
LOCATION: 24 S. Main Bel Air, Maryland 21014	UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
COMMON NAME:	U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Commercial	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Woodstove Johnny's
OWNER: The Link, Inc., % Cameron & Reed ADDRESS: 30 Office Street Bel Air, Maryland 21014	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Martin & Anderson's Store
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes (x) No ( ) Restricted ( )	PRESENT USE: store
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local (x) State ( ) National ( )	ORIGINAL USE: Store
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
1. Foundation: Stone( ) Brick( ) Concrete( ) Concrete Block( )	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
2. Wall Structure	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent ( ) Good ( ) Fair (x) Poor: ( )
A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam( ) Balloon( )	THEME: Architecture
B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick( ) Stone( ) Concrete( ) Concrete Block( )	STYLE: vernacular
C. Iron( ) D. Steel( ) E. Other:	DATE BUILT: 1878
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard( ) Board and Batten( ) Wood Shingle( ) Shiplap( ) Novelty( ) Stucco( ) Sheet Metal(x) Aluminum( ) Asphalt Shingle( ) Brick Veneer( ) Stone Veneer( ) formstone	
Bonding Pattern: Other:	
4. Roof Structure	
A. Truss: Wood( ) Iron( ) Steel( ) Concrete( )	
B. Other:	
5. Roof Covering: Slate( ) Wood Shingle( ) Asphalt Shingle( ) Sheet Metal( ) Built Up( ) Rolled( ) Tile( ) Other:	
6. Engineering Structure:	
7. Other:	
Appendages: Porches( ) Towers( ) Cupolas( ) Dormers( ) Chimneys( ) Sheds( ) Ells( ) Wings ( ) Other:	
Roof Style: Gable(x) Hip( ) Shed( ) Flat( ) Mansard( ) Gambrel( ) Jerkinhead( ) Saw Tooth( ) With Monitor( ) With Bellcast( ) With Parapet( ) With False Front( ) Other:	
Number of Stories: 2-1/2	
Number of Bays: 4	Entrance Location: Main St.
Approximate Dimensions: 27' x 118	
THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat( ) Zoning( ) Roads( ) Development( ) Deterioration(x) Alteration ( ) Other:	LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive( ) Negative( ) Mixed( ) Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

2 rooms - show room 50' ft  
 3 rooms up -storage  
 23' ft. = store Cab Co. next door

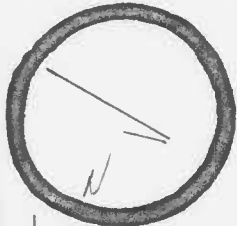
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

c. 1878 store front of different design from its northerly neighbors.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



Office St

(# 34)

24  
Main

MAIN St

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane( )Woodland( )Scattered Buildings( )  
 Moderately Built Up( )Densely Built Up( )  
 Residential( )Commercial(✓)  
 Agricultural( )Industrial( )  
 Roadside Strip Development( )  
 Other:

M. Larew

RECORDED BY:

Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:

16 March 1979

DATE RECORDED:

TITLE: STORE 24 S. MAIN

903/550

7 August 1972

Bradford McE. Jacobs, Trustee  
to

The Link, Inc.

The fee simple for the northerly 27 feet of the whole lot. By 34/211, 1876, George L. Van Bibber and wife leased to John W. Anderson the property, 49 ft. on the west side of Main Street for \$73.50 per annum. The ground rent became vested in Joseph S. Jacobs. By his will (33/208, 1954) he left it to Bradford McE. Jacobs as his sole Trustee. This deed extinguishes the ground rent.

George L. Van Bibber acquired the land in 1876 from Stevenson B. Archer, trustee in Jacobs vs. Jacobs. The land, like all that in the square, belonged to Thomas Hays. He left it to his daughter, Pamela. When Pamela died without issue, the property passed to Elizabeth Jacobs and her issue. Jacobs vs. Jacobs was a suit to allow the property to be sold and the proceeds invested in some way so as to produce more income.

302/209

the lease

28 March 1946

Aaron I. Rosenberg & Herman M. Rosenberg  
to

The Link, Inc.

288/191

12 April 1945

Paul D. Stearns, C. Courtney Stearns, and James H. Broumel, executors and trustees of Thomas K. Price (wll 1943, 21/217); Keturah M. Stearns, Jessie E. Duvall, Paul D. Stearns, Thomas P. Stearns of Litchfield, Conn.; Sara E. Broumel, and C. Courtney Stearns

to

Solomon M. Rosenberg, Aaron I. Rosenberg, and Herman M. Rosenberg



Thomas K. Price was the surviving partner of Carver and Price. He left the property to Keturah M. Stearns and S. Elizabeth Price (since deceased) for their joint lives and the life of the survivor, with the remainder to his nieces and nephews, John L. Stearns (since deceased; his heir was his mother Keturah Stearns), Jessie E. Duvall, Paul D. Stearns, Thomas F. Stearns, Sarah E. Broumel, and C. Courtney Stearns. He directed that the store business be continued so long as it proved profitable. Should it cease to be profitable it should be sold and the proceeds invested in another form. This deed represents the sale to the Rosenbergs, owners of the Hub.

259/210

20 February 1940  
Irene E. Carver, widow  
to  
Thomas K. Price

166/192

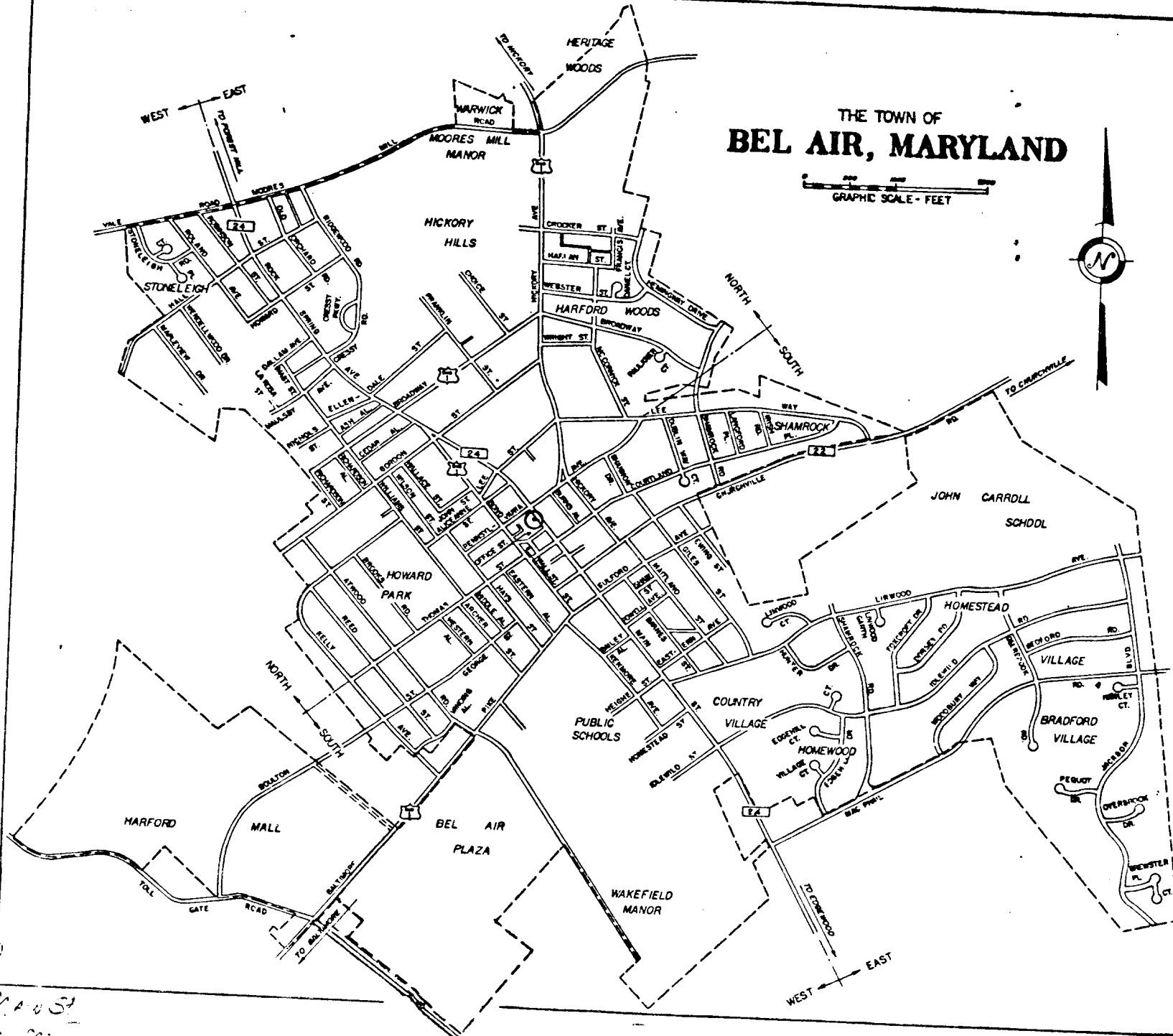
1 December 1919  
John W. Anderson, et al  
to  
Charles T. Carver and Thomas K. Price

34/211

2 November 1876  
George L. Van Bibber and wife  
to  
John W. Anderson  
except so much of the south part of the lot (22 feet) as was subsequently conveyed to Solomon Getz by 645/227, 1964.

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



HA-1450  
Store  
2nd Floor  
Bel Air, MD



